

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 USIA-15 AID-05 EB-08 AF-10 COME-00  
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AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: FAO, SOCI, XA  
SUBJECT: FAO FOOD INFORMATION AND EARLY WARNING SYSTEM SAHEL  
FOOD AND CROP SITUATION 1977 - REPORT NO. 2

PASS INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE; USDA  
(PHILLIPS); IO (BYRNES); AID (SHEEHAN, FFP; HOLMES, OFDC;  
SHEAR AFR/SFWA)

1. FUTURE MESSAGES THIS SUBJECT WILL NOT BE SEPARATELY SLUGGED.
2. FIS 123 SAHEL FOOD AND CROP SITUATION 1977 REPORT NO. 2  
COVERS RAINFALL SEASON UNTIL END JULY. THIRD REPORT WILL BE  
ISSUED BEGINNING SEPTEMBER.

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3. SUMMARY: MOISTURE CONDITIONS CRITICAL IN ZONES BBB AND CCC  
OF CHAD (25 PERCENT OF OUTPUT IN AVERAGE YEARS) AND IN PARTS  
OF ZONE BBB OF MAURITANIA. IN MOST OF THE UPPER VOLTA, GOOD  
END-JULY RAINS BENEFITED CROPS WHICH SUFFERED FROM ERRATIC AND  
INSUFFICIENT RAINFALL SINCE THE START OF THE RAINY SEASON.  
RAINS REMAINED SCANTY IN ZONE CCC INDICATING PARTIAL CROP FAILURE.  
IN SENEGAL, PLANTINGS AND CROP DEVELOPMENT AFFECTED BY DELAYED

START AND ERRATIC PERFORMANCE OF RAINY SEASON. IN OTHER SAHELIAN COUNTRIES NORMAL SEASONAL RAINS FAVOR CROP DEVELOPMENT.

4. CHAD: FOOD AID EVACUATION FROM DUALA AND TRANSPORT TO CHAD IMPROVED. AVERAGE DAILY RATE INCREASED TO APPROX. 100 MT. SUBSTANTIAL AID DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM UNDERWAY IN FOOD SHORTAGE AREAS. APPROX. 12,500 MT. AT DISTRIBUTION CENTERS OF WHICH 7,800 MT. WERE DISTRIBUTED UP TO 15 JULY. ADDITIONAL 19,000 MT. AVAILABLE DOUALA, CHAD, SUDAN FOR TRANSPORTATION TO DISTRIBUTION CENTERS. ETA DOUALA FURTHER 10,000 MT. AID PLEDGES NOT AVAILABLE.

RAINS CONTINUED NORMAL IN ZONES DDD, EEE AND FF (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF PALA IN ZONE EEE) NORMALLY ACCOUNG FOR ABOUT 75 PERCENT OF TOTAL GRAIN PRODUCTION. MOISTURE CONDITIONS REMAIN CRITICAL IN ZONES BBB AND CCC WHERE DROUGHT CASUSED SEVERE CROP LOSSES LAST YEAR. IN ZONE CCC DANGER OF A COMPLETE CROP FAILURE IN ABECHE AREA AS RAINS WERE INSIGNIFICANT DURING THE LAST DECADE OF JULY.

5. GAMBIA: FAO/WFP EMERGENCY AID APPROVED ON 10 AUGUST ON ACCOUNT OF CURRENT FOOD SHORTAGES ARISING FROM LAST YEAR'S EARLY MILLET FAILURE. CROP SHORTFALL ESTIMATED AT ABOUT 9,000 TONS. FAO/WFP TO SUPPLY ABOUT 3,340 TONS SORGHUM. EMERGENCY AID WOULD COVER REQUIREMENTS OF MOST AFFECTED POPULATIONS UP TO MID-OCTOBER HARVEST. OVERALL JULY RAINFALL ADEQUATE FOR CROP DEVELOPMENT IN EASTERN REGIONS WHILE IN BANJUL AREA RAINFALL UNCLASSIFIED

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HAS BEEN ERRATIC.

6. MALI: NO FOOD SHORTAGES. EARLY FORECASTS INDICATE 1977 GRAIN PRODUCTION AT 1.4 MILLION TONS AS AGAINST 1.25 MILLION TONS PRODUCED LAST YEAR. IN VIEW OF FAVORABLE GRAIN CROP PROSPECTS NO COMMERCIAL GRAIN IMPORTS PLANNED. NORMAL JULY RAINS IN ZONES BBB, DD, EE AND FFF (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF KAYES AREA) PROVIDE ADEQUATE SOIL MOISTURE FOR NORMAL CROP DEVELOPMENT. THE FOUR ZONES ACCOUNT FOR ABOUT 75 PERCENT OF TOTAL GRAIN PRODUCTION. IN ZONE CCC JULY RAINS WERE SLIGHTLY BELOW AVERAGE, BUT SUFFICIENT TO SUSTAIN CROP GROWTH.

7. MAURITANIA: FOOD GRAIN DEFICIT ESTIMATED LAST APRIL RANGES FROM 18,000 TO 26,000 TONS DURING MAY TO OCTOBER 1977. CEREAL AID PLEDGES BY DONORS TOTAL 24,000 TONS. APPROX. 10,000 TONS ARRIVED BY END JULY OF WHICH 6,200 TONS STILL IN STOCK FOR DISTRIBUTION. DROUGHT PREVAILS IN ZONES AAA AND PARTS OF BBB (THE LATTER ACCOUNTING FOR APPROXIMATELY 30 PERCENT OF TOTAL GRAIN PRODUCTION). NO RAINFALL INFORMATION FOR ZONE CCC. MID-JULY SOWINGS IN KAEDI AREA OF ZONE BBB WERE AFFECTED BY COMPLETE DROUGHT IN THE LAST DECADE OF JULY. CROP CONDITIONS NORMAL FURTHER EAST AIOUN EL ATROUSS ARE DUE TO HIGHER

THAN AVERAGE END-JULY RAINS. LEVEL SENEGAL RIVER BELOW NORMAL.

8. NIGER: FOOD SITUATION RECENTLY REVIEWED BY GOVERNMENT AND CONSIDERED TO BE SATISFACTORY. GOVERNMENT NOT REQUESTING INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE. OVERALL JULY RAINS NORMAL, EXCEPT FOR ZONE DDD WHERE, HOWEVER, SOIL MOISTURE RESERVES APPEAR SUFFICIENT TO MEET PLAN REQUIREMENTS.

9. SENEGAL: FOOD SITUATION SATISFACTORY. OVERALL CROP SITUATION GIVES RISE TO CONCERN. START OF RAINY SEASON EXTREMELY DELAYED IN ZONES CCC AND DDD (45 PERCENT OF TOTAL GRAIN PRODUCTION). IN OTHER ZONES DISTRIBUTION OF RAINS ERRATIC. CROPS RESOWN 2 OR 3 TIMES IN SOME AREAS. CROP DEVELOPMENT RETARDED.

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10. UPPER VOLTA: FOOD SITUATION INCREASINGLY SERIOUS, LOCALIZED INCIDENCE OF FAMINE REPORTED. END-JULY MEETING OF MAJOR AID DONORS IN OUAGADOUGOU SUMMARIZED CURRENT AID COMMITMENTS IN CEREALS AND PROPOSALS OF FURTHER AID ARE 4,500 TONS. TOTAL AID THEORETICALLY COVERS REQUIREMENTS UP TO NOVEMBER HARVEST BUT ITS EFFECTIVENESS IS DEPENDENT ON TIMELY SHIPPING AND LOCAL DISTRIBUTION. DONORS ARE URGED TO DECIDE ON PROPOSALS UNDER CONSIDERATION AND TO MAKE SHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. JULY RAINS EXTREMELY IRREGULAR. THE SECOND DECADE WAS EXCEPTIONALLY DRY WITH ONLY ONE EXTREMELY HEAVY DOWNPOUR OVER FDA-N'GOURMA, BUT RAINS WERE CLOSE TO, OR IN EXCESS OF, NORMAL IN THE LAST DECADE, EXCEPT FOR ZONE CCC. IN ZONES DDD AND EEE (75 PERCENT OF TOTAL GRAIN CROP) THE RAINS BENEFITED CROPS AFFECTED BY PREVIOUS ERRATIC AND SCANTY RAINFALL. IN ZONE CCC (ACCOUNTING FOR ABOUT 15 PERCENT OF TOTAL GRAIN HARVEST) A PARTIAL CROP FAILURE IS EXPECTED. FAO IS CONSIDERING MISSION TO ASSESS CROP PROSPECTS BY END-AUGUST. (BINDER, FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION ROME).HOLMES

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## Message Attributes

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